

A&M Corpus Christi Adjudicated Youth Program, \$150,000 for Global Marketing and Logistics Certification Program at the University of Texas at Brownsville, \$300,000 for street improvements at the Robstown Inland Port, \$500,000 for the Corpus Christi and Robstown Regional Intermodal Transit Facility, \$700,000 for Shrimp Industry Fishing Effort Research Continuation in the Gulf of Mexico and throughout the country, \$19,764,000 for Corpus Christi Naval Air Station Operational Facilities to support T-6 planes, \$4,470,000 for the Solar Panel Array at Kingsville Naval Air Station, \$10,200,000 for the Robstown Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facility, and \$200,000 for the Brownsville and Corpus Christi Independent School Districts' joint South Texas Library Literacy Project.

I want to make clear that my vote for this bill reflects solely my support for the aforementioned priorities. I have consistently voted against using federal funds to support abortion services and am pleased that this bill upholds those limitations so that my constituents' tax dollars are not used in a way inconsistent with their moral beliefs.

My vote in favor of H.R. 3288 reflects my commitment to fund this nation's economic priorities and help our South Texas communities, educational facilities, and small businesses in the midst of a deep recession.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, as a leader on earmark reform, I am committed to protecting taxpayers' money and providing greater transparency and a fully accountable process. H.R. 3326, Department of Defense and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 contains the following funding:

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army—Medical Technology

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Department of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga

Address: 975 East Third Street Chattanooga, TN 37403

Description of Request: The University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga requested funding for its work with artificial bone implants and grafts for American soldiers, airmen, sailors and marines who have lost limbs in combat. This research will greatly enhance the lives of injured service members giving them more independence and allow them to live more productive and fulfilling lives. The University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga receives \$1,000,000 for this project.

Distribution of funding:

Yearly Staffing—37%

Consultative Services—9%

Scientific Material—54%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Other Procurement, Army—Training Devices, Nonsystem

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Tennessee Army National Guard

Address: Houston Barracks, 3041 Sidco Drive Nashville, TN 37204

Description of Request: The Tennessee Army National Guard requested funding to purchase and maintain Combined Arms Virtual Trainers to better prepare service members for deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. This equipment replicates virtual battlefields and allows Army National Guard soldiers to train as they will fight. Allowing Combined Arms Training within a virtual environment will save lives on the real battlefield. The Tennessee Army National Guard receives \$5,000,000 for this equipment.

Distribution of funding: Equipment, Software, & Maintenance—100%

### HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD ALLEN POPE

### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Edward Allen Pope of Amarillo and life-long resident of Dallas, who died at the age of 85 on October 29, 2009.

Ed was born October 31, 1923 to Gertrude Milam and Edward G. Pope. After graduating from Crozier Tech High School in 1942, he joined the U.S. Navy and earned the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He served during World War II and the Korean Conflict as a naval aviator. He received The China Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Naval Reserve Medal. After Naval retirement, he became an electrician for Ling, Oliver and O'Dwyer, working there until his retirement in 1989.

In December 1947, he married Virginia Shelly, and they would have celebrated 62 years together this year as man and wife. He was a great "in-law", loving Virginia's family as his own. Ed was a family man—a great father of strong faith and conviction. He was a faithful member of Christ Church in Dallas, serving on their Vestry as Junior Warden for 35 years. He loved unconditionally and he loved a good time. His rule in life was "the more the merrier" and he was the leader and planner for hunting, skiing and boating excursions and many family outings. He was an inquisitive, generous, tender-hearted, gentle man loved by all who knew him.

Ed is survived by his wife, Virginia; a brother, Norman Pope of Austin; a daughter, Janace Pope Ponder of Amarillo and her husband, David; his daughter-in-law Debby Pope; his grandchildren, Paige Garmon, Abby Mitchell, Carmen Juckett and Courtney Pope; and great grandchildren, Michael Clouse, Peyton Garmon, Madison Garmon, Shelby Garmon, Kaylee Mitchell and Jacob Juckett; as well as nieces, nephews and many close friends and other family members. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son, Joseph Pope. Madam Speaker, I ask those present today to join me in honoring the life of this great American, Edward Allen Pope.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY

### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a Resolution of Inquiry directing the Attorney General to transmit to the House all information relating to the decision to dismiss an important voter intimidation case, *United States v. New Black Panther Party*. The case sought to enforce Voting Rights Act statutes against members of the New Black Panther Party that threatened Philadelphia voters—both verbally and physically—last year.

This case was inexplicably dismissed earlier this year—over the ardent objections of the career attorneys overseeing the case as well as the department's own appeal office.

I regret that Congress must resort to oversight resolutions as a means to receive information about the dismissal of this case, but the Congress and the American people have a right to know why this case was not prosecuted.

As ranking Republican member of the House Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Justice Department, I take oversight of the department very seriously.

I also strongly support voting rights protections. In 1981, I was the only member—Republican or Democrat—of the Virginia delegation in the House to vote for the Voting Rights Act and was harshly criticized by the editorial page of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, and when I supported its reauthorization in 2006, I was criticized again by editorial pages.

Time and again over the last year, the department has stonewalled any effort to learn about the decision to dismiss this case.

I have written Attorney General Holder on six occasions asking for an explanation for the dismissal of this case. To date, I have received no response from him.

I wrote the DOJ Inspector General to request a review of this decision. He deferred to the Office of Professional Responsibility—which reports directly to the Attorney General.

I have written the Office of Professional Responsibility seeking information on its investigation. The Office has refused to share any information.

In fact, the only response I have received—from a legislative affairs staffer—was woefully incomplete and—in places—inaccurate.

Two months ago, I met with House Judiciary Chairman CONYERS to ask for his assistance in obtaining this information, but he has yet to take any action. This is a shameful failure to provide necessary congressional oversight.

It is not only Congress that is being stonewalled by the Attorney General. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has repeatedly sought this same information, in fulfillment of its statutory responsibility to ensure the enforcement of civil rights law.

After being similarly rebuffed, the commission filed subpoenas with the department for this information as well as to interview the career attorneys that handled the case.

However, we understand that the Attorney General has instructed his department to ignore these subpoenas. The nation's chief law enforcement officer is forcing these career attorneys to choose between complying with the

law and complying with the Attorney General's obstruction.

At least one of the attorneys has been compelled to obtain private counsel.

I urge the House Judiciary Committee to report this resolution out favorably and to demand that the Attorney General answer the questions surrounding this case.

The career attorneys and Appellate Division within the department sought to demonstrate the Federal Government's commitment to protecting voting rights by vigorously prosecuting any individual or group that seeks to undermine this right.

This House must not turn a blind eye to the Attorney General's obstruction. He has an obligation to answer the legitimate questions of the House and the Civil Rights Commission.

It is imperative that we protect the right of all Americans to vote—the sacrosanct and inalienable right of any democracy.

I submit for the record a copy of the resolution that I am introducing.

#### RESOLUTION

Directing the Attorney General to transmit to the House of Representatives all information in the Attorney General's possession relating to the decision to dismiss *United States v. New Black Panther Party*.

*Resolved*, That the Attorney General is directed to transmit to the House of Representatives, not later than 14 days after the date of adoption of this resolution, copies of any document, memo, or correspondence of the Department of Justice with regard to *United States v. New Black Panther Party*, or any portion of any such document, memo, or correspondence that refers or relates to—

(1) any department communications with regard to the case between November 5, 2008 and November 15, 2009;

(2) any communication with the defendants or the defendants' attorneys between November 5, 2008 and November 15, 2009;

(3) any communication with third-party organizations or individuals between November 5, 2008 and November 15, 2009; or

(4) any evidence with regard to the dismissal of the case.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF EDDIE M. BROOKS

##### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Mr. Eddie Brooks, a loving husband and father, veteran of the Korean War, and an American hero, who passed away August 18, 2009 at the age of 90.

Hailing from Hope, Arkansas, Mr. Brooks committed twenty years of his life in service to the United States Army, serving with the Army Medical Service, Medical Detachment, and 555th Field Artillery Battalion in the Korean War. Mr. Brooks was sent into combat in Korea with no training, but rose to the occasion, demonstrating bravery in how he handled himself and defended his comrades.

Early on in his deployment, his unit was trapped in a river bed where they were exposed to extensive shooting and grenades. Mr. Brooks was injured when one grenade got under his feet, seriously wounding one leg. Corporal Eddie M. Brooks refused evacuation,

continuing to treat other wounded soldiers and assisting in their removal from the area. The United States Army Headquarters 25th Infantry Division stated, "When the unit began displacement because of increased hostile action, he drove a 2½ ton truck loaded with critical supplies to safety. Corporal Brooks' gallant and selfless devotion to duty reflects the greatest credit upon himself and the Army Medical Service." When asked about his received honors, Mr. Brooks always expressed his feeling that he was undeserving but appreciative, believing that others had sacrificed more than him.

For his military service, Mr. Brooks was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star, Germany Occupation Medal, United Nations Medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, and the Korean Service Medal.

At home, Mr. Brooks was the devoted husband to his wife of 58 years, Joyce, and the father of four daughters, Brenda, who passed away in 2005 due to illness, Debra, Charlotte, and Angela. Held in high esteem by all who knew him, he left behind a legacy of honor, service, and love. Madam Speaker, I ask those here today to join me in paying tribute to this great American hero, Mr. Eddie M. Brooks.

#### HONORING FRANK "PONCHO" ROBERTS

##### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank "Poncho" Roberts, a dedicated husband, father, and community servant on the occasion of his graduation from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Mr. Roberts graduates with a bachelor of fine arts degree in theatre.

Poncho Roberts was born to Frank and Daisy Roberts on February 19, 1932, in Madisonville, Texas. He spent part of his childhood in Huntsville, but later moved to Houston and graduated from Austin High School in 1949. After graduation, he worked for the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. He spent most of his career working for the company at NASA as a craftsman and supervisor. Poncho fondly recounts his days working as a contractor for the space agency having seen some of its earliest missions from Gemini to Apollo.

Upon retirement in 1986, Poncho and his wife, Sugar, moved back to Huntsville to be close to their children. With a heart for serving others and a joyful, outgoing personality, Poncho was called on to help with various community service projects. He was the driving force behind the effort to build the Huntsville Aquatic Center, which has given the youth of Huntsville a place to swim and has allowed for the development of the Huntsville Lakers Swim Team.

Poncho has volunteered many hours of his time to work with the Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce working at the Sam Houston Statue and Visitors Center. He is a member of the Huntsville Rotary Club and leads the "I Like Me!" program that distributes books to children to promote literary and character building. Poncho is also a deacon at

University Heights Baptist Church in Huntsville.

Poncho is well known for the penchant he has for the fine arts, especially theatre, and he has been a part of many plays performed by the Huntsville Community Theatre.

Of all his accomplishments, Poncho is most proud of being a loving husband and father. Poncho and Sugar have been married for 58 years. They have raised two children, a son, Frank Jr., and a daughter, Debbie. They have eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren with another on the way.

Madam Speaker, Poncho Roberts has dedicated his life to being a family man and to serving his community. He is proof that education is a lifelong endeavor. It is such an honor to represent good people like Poncho in the U.S. House of Representatives. I urge you to join me in congratulating him on his graduation. That's Togetherness, One More Time.

#### RECOGNIZING A. PHILIP RANDOLPH FOR HIS LIFELONG LEADERSHIP AND WORK TO END DISCRIMINATION

SPEECH OF

##### HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 15, 2009*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I express my support for H. Res. 150, introduced by my colleague Chairman CHARLES RANGEL, which recognizes the accomplishments of the great civil rights leader, A. Philip Randolph.

Mr. Randolph not only made great strides in shaping the civil rights movement during the turn of the 20th century, but he also impacted the growth of the labor movement and the rise of union labor.

A. Philip Randolph had a significant effect on political discourse in the African-American community during the 1930s with the founding of *The Messenger*, a political and literary magazine which documented several of the greatest injustices of our history. Through this magazine, Randolph advocated civil disobedience and membership in labor unions.

Mr. Randolph championed the cause of African-American men in labor, from sleeping car porters to elevator operators. He organized and founded the Brotherhood for Sleeping Car Porters, which fought for overtime pay and pay increases for sleeping car porters, a majority of which were African-American, at a time when sharecropping in the South was still widespread.

We also honor Mr. Randolph for his leadership in organizing the March on Washington, which will be remembered as one of the most important political rallies of the twentieth century.

A. Philip Randolph personified the idea of a renaissance man, as a writer, actor, political activist and union organizer. He achieved the unachievable during a time when education was unattainable for most African-Americans, even most Americans.

Mr. Randolph has received numerous awards, namely, the Congressional Medal of Honor, one of the highest honors for civilians in the United States of America. His contributions to our great Nation are undeniable, and